

Cabarrus County Natural Area Inventory

REED GOLD MINE Significant Natural Heritage Area

Site Significance: regional
Quadrangles: Locust

Size: 822.34 acres
Ownership: NC Dept. of Cultural
Resources

SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

Significance: National Historic Landmark

Biological Description:

A: DRY OAK - HICKORY FOREST - Piedmont Hardpan Variant.

B: This site for the most part has a vegetation structure characteristic of a semi-mature forest. The canopy is fairly open and the subcanopy, shrub, and herb layers are well developed and diverse.

C: The canopy is dominated by dry site oaks, primarily *Quercus alba*, *Q. falcata*, and *Q. stellata* and hickory species including *Carya ovata*, *C. glabra* and *C. tomentosa*. The subcanopy contains *Ulmus alata*, *Prunus serrotina*, *Cornus florida*, and *Cercis canadensis*. Shrubs present include *Rhus aromatica*, *Ilex opaca* and *Vaccinium corymbosum*. The herb layer is well developed and diverse. Vines present include *Toxicodendron radicans* and *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*.

D: Because Little Meadow Creek runs through this site this community grades into a PIEDMONT/LOW MOUNTAIN ALLUVIAL FOREST

E: Good quality and condition.

F: 822.34 acres.

SITE DESCRIPTION

Province: PIEDMONT

Watershed: Yadkin - Pee Dee

Aspect: flat, all

Moisture: wet mesic, mesic, dry mesic

Hydrology: terrestrial, palustrine

Slope: flat-10

Topographic Position: upper-mid-lower slope, alluvial flat

Geology: mvm - Mafic and Intermediate Metavolcanic Rocks zp - Phyllite (Late Proterozoic) Au - inactive gold mine

Elevation: 550

Soils: BaB - Badin channery silt loam, 2 to 8% slopes GoC - Goldston very channery silt loam 4 to 15% slopes MsA - Misenheimer channery silt loam 0 to 4% slopes Ch-Chewacla sandy lo

Comments: Many old mining pits have been fenced off because of the danger to the public.